REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-15 and 17-36 were pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1, 15, 25, 28, 29 and 31-33 have been amended, claims 2, 13, 16 and 27 have been cancelled, and claims 37-49 have been added. Claims 29 and 31 were objected to for informalities and claims 1, 3-15, 17-32, 35 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the reasons articulated below. (The Office Action Summary indicated the Examiner also objected to claims 33 and 34. However, the Detailed Action failed to recite any objections and accordingly Applicant does not address this objection.)

I. OBJECTIONS

Claims 29 and 31 were objected to due to informalities. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly. Applicant respectfully requests that objection on this basis be reconsidered and withdrawn.

II. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3-15, 17-32, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Derwent abstract and Figure 1 of Murakawa, et al. (JP 03118462 A) in view of Speicher et al. (US 6,638,408 B1). As presently claimed these claims recite "a removable cartridge disposed in the electric field area." Neither Murakawa nor Speicher shows this claimed element. Accordingly, the art does not suggest the combination of elements recited in claims 1, 3-15, 17-32, 35 and 36.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION NYCDMS/4344.22.1

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and favorable action is hereby requested. If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below. If the Commissioner determines that additional fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-0393, Attorney Docket No. 56104576-82.

Dated: January 18, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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